

# EVALUATION SUMMARY



## Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Office of Policy and Evaluation

### U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program Outcome Assessment

*The purpose of the evaluation was to assess and document the outcomes and impact of the U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program. Specifically, to 1) ascertain – in quantitative and qualitative terms – whether the program is achieving its legislative goals; 2) assess the broader impacts of the program on individuals and institutions both in the United States and in the Fulbright Scholars' host countries; and 3) assess and document the contribution of the "Fulbright Scholar experience" to the professional and personal lives, activities and achievements of program alumni.*

### Key Findings

#### ➤ Serving the National Interest and Promoting Mutual Understanding

*Since completing the grant*

- 75 % of Scholars have continued to collaborate with host country or institution colleagues
- 70 % have initiated professional exchanges of people
- 70 % have been visited in the United States by host country colleagues or friends
- 60 % have revisited their host country with over 40 % returning to participate in conferences or seminars

#### ➤ Impact on the Individuals and Institutions

- 100 % reported the experience gave them a deeper understanding of the host country
- 98 % interacted with people from their host country through media, community or other activities outside of their professional responsibilities
- 73 % of Scholars have incorporated aspects of the Fulbright experience into courses and teaching methods
- 76 % gave papers or presentations at scholarly or professional meetings
- 71 % published in refereed journals
- 51 % have become more involved with colleagues from other countries

#### ➤ Perceived Value of the Program

- 98 % of Scholars found the program to be valuable
- 97 % are proud to have been a U.S. Fulbright Scholar
- 88 % would like to obtain a second grant

**Project Information:** SRI International (formerly the Stanford Research Institute) conducted the study from September 1999 through April 2002. SRI surveyed a stratified random sample of 1,004 U.S. Fulbright Scholar alumni whose grants began between 1976 and 1999. Scholars were notified of the survey by e-mail, and a total of 801 alumni – 80 percent – completed the questionnaire either on the Web or by hard copy.

**Program Information:** [The Fulbright Educational Exchange Program](#), established in 1946, is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries and has provided more than 250,000 participants from United States and around the world with the opportunity to teach, conduct research, study, live and work abroad. The U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program, one of several Fulbright programs, provides grants to American college and university faculty, as well as to professionals and independent scholars, to lecture and conduct research in 140 countries.

**Contact Information:** For more information regarding this evaluation, or to request a copy of the full report, please contact the Office of Policy and Evaluation at (202) 619-5307, by email at [evaluations@pd.state.gov](mailto:evaluations@pd.state.gov), or by mail at State Annex 44, Room 336, 301 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547.